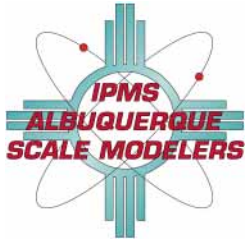


ALBUQUERQUE SCALE MODELERS



<https://abqscalemodelers.com>

December 2019

MODEL OF THE YEAR MIKE BLOHM

Showdown Reminder

All ASM members are reminded that the December 6 meeting includes the ASM 2019 Model of the Year contest. This is a head-to-head competition between all the Best of Show winners from the 2019 Theme (Points) Contests and the Best Overall winners from the 2019 Special (Non-Points) Contests, at each division level (Juniors, Basic, Intermediate, and Masters). Of note, the winners from December's "75th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge" Special Contest are also contenders in the Showdown.

Your model must be present at the December meeting to compete, but you do not personally need to be there, so please arrange for someone else to bring it if you cannot attend. We would love to see all the contender models there.



2019 Model of the Year Showdown



A listing of all eligible contender models is available on the ASM Website (<https://tinyurl.com/asm1912a>)

November Meeting highlights, left to right: members checking out model entries, Dave Straub runs a clinic on casting small detail parts, and the business meeting in progress



Year 2019 Contest Quick Reference Chart

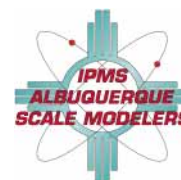
Titles in **blue** indicate contests for points

04 Jan	SPECIAL CONTEST #1: SCI-FI/SCIENCE/REAL SPACE/FANTASY Sponsored Contest: "Frickin' Laser Beams" (Patrick Dick)
01 Feb	ASM Swap Meet —no contest
01 Mar	Open Contest —Any kit/subject/scale
05 Apr	SPECIAL CONTEST #2: PRESIDENT'S CHOICE: FABULOUS FIFTIES
03 May	Automotive —Any kit/subject/scale
07 Jun	SPECIAL CONTEST #3: D-DAY 75TH ANNIVERSARY
12 Jul	Man in Space —Any proposed/realspace crewed subject Sponsored Contest: "Best Supersonic" (Patrick Dick)
02 Aug	SPECIAL CONTEST #4: BEGINNING OF WWII 80TH ANNIVERSARY
06 Sep	ASM Swap Meet —no contest
04 Oct	Enter the Dragon —Any DML/Dragon/Cyberhobby kit
01 Nov	Open Contest —Any kit/subject/scale
06 Dec	SPECIAL CONTEST #5: BATTLE OF THE BULGE 75TH ANNIVERSARY Plus <i>Model of the Year</i> competition!

IN THE BONUS PAGES!

In this month's **Bonus Pages**:

- Photos of last month's contest winners
- An article about the Cavalcade of Wings by Mark Vaughn
- A kit report from Mark Vaughn
- A field trip report from Lloyd Powell on his recent visit to the *USS Wisconsin*
- And more!



Master

Scott Jaworski	2190
John Tate	1580
Chuck Hermann	1274
Mike Blohm	482
Josh Pals	475
Ken Liotta	462
Casey Rupley	402
Frank Randall	349
Steve Brodeur	316
Glenn Bingham	250
Patrick Dick	152
David Epstein	150
Tony Humphries	25
Larry Glenn	10
James Strickland	2

Intermediate

Jim Medina	1907
Bob Henderson	1677
John Wyer	795
Ken Piniak	698
Dave Tingley	560
David DeYoung	450
Don Smith	335
Rob Whitlock	227
Blaine Couch	200
Jeff Frickstad	150
Mark Vaughn	110
Bob Deurloo	50
Jack Garriss	50
Charles Petrilli	25
David Haskins	4

Steve Miller	4
Logan Carbin	2

Basic

Jeannie Garriss	495
Stephen Stearns	454
Mark Vaughn	325
Aaron Schmiedke	300
Brendan Brown	250
David Paul	125

Junior

Alexander Tate	795
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2019 MODELER OF THE YEAR POINTS

As of 20 Nov 19

CONTACT INFO

President:
Vice President:
Secretary/Treasurer:
Contest Director:
Members Pro-Tem:

Webmaster:
Newsletter Editor:

Josh Pals
Tony Humphries
Frank Randall
Chris Kurtze
David Epstein
Jack Garriss
Ken Piniak
Mike Blohm
Joe Walters

jpals871@gmail.com
abkhumphries@gmail.com
fcr40.fr@gmail.com
aggressivekill@yahoo.com
sf49erinm@gmail.com
jgar319113@aol.com
kpiniak@yahoo.com
BlohmM@aol.com
jwalters22@comcast.net

ASM members are encouraged to submit articles, reviews and other items as appropriate. Contact editor Joe Walters for details and specs. **Submission deadline for each issue is now ten days prior to the next meeting (that's a Tuesday). Items I receive by Tuesday night will be in the newsletter, and items received after that will be in the following issue.**

BONUS PAGES!

NOVEMBER CONTEST WINNERS

Top to bottom: James Medina's "Clearing the Sunken Road" diorama (Intermediate), Mark Vaughn's Jagdpanzer 38t (Basic), and Scott Jaworski's Churchill Mk III (Masters). There were no Junior entries. Photos by Mike Blohm and Frank Randall.



BONUS PAGES!

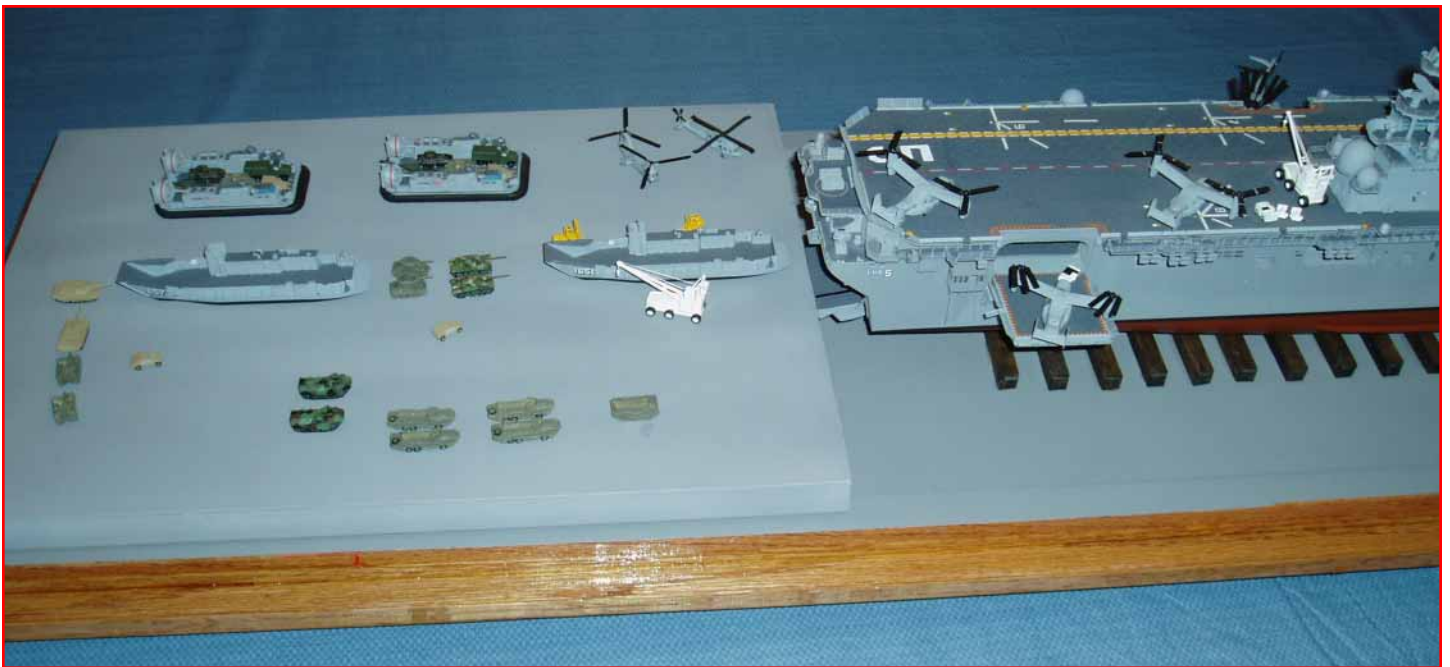
USS BATAAN AND THE CAVALCADE OF WINGS

MARK VAUGHN

Albuquerque Scale Modelers (ASM), the local IPMS chapter, supports the Cavalcade of Wings both monetarily and through the efforts of some of the members. In and after 2012, for the New Mexico centennial,

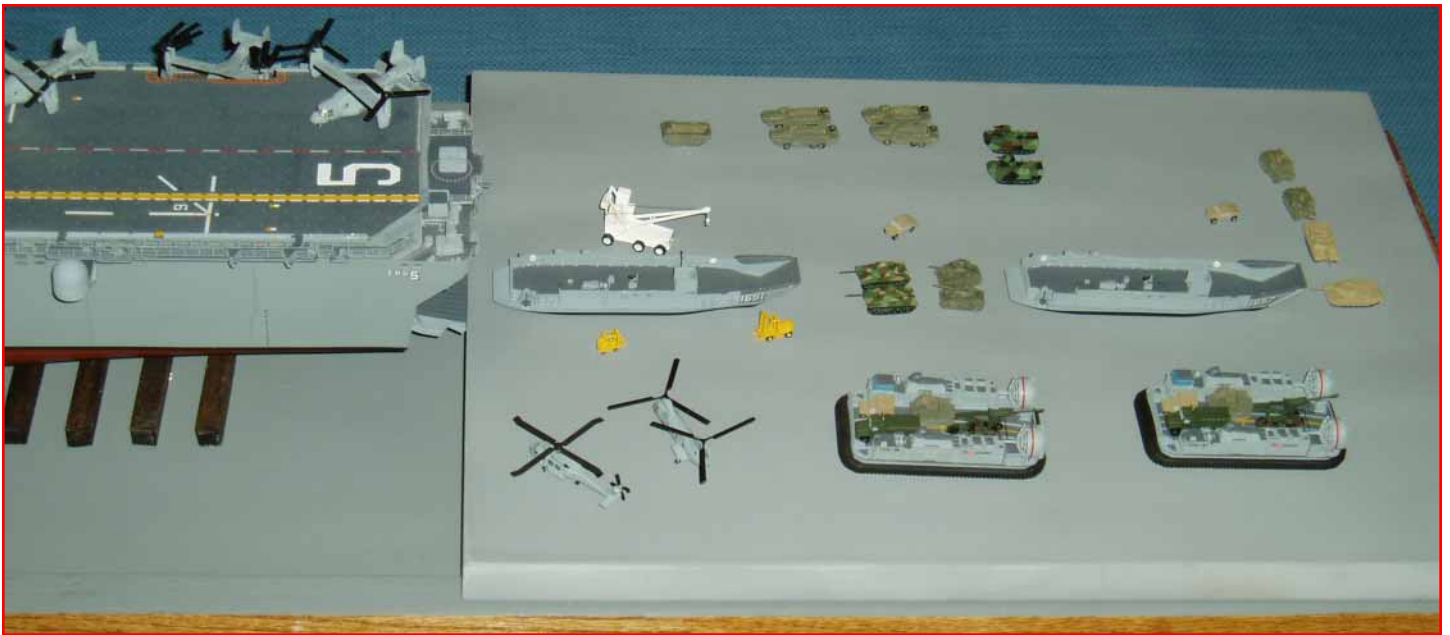


CoW and some IPMS members built a series of models of World War II US Navy ships named for New Mexico places and other New Mexico themes for display in museums across New Mexico. One of these is the *USS Bataan*, LHD-5, named for the infamous death march that so many New Mexicans from the 200th and 515th Coast Artillery Regiment were a part of. The kit chosen was MRC/Gallery 1/350 Wasp/Iwo Jima, with decal mods as needed. This kit has about 1500 parts.



I “inherited” the kit partially assembled by Larry Niederman. The budget was expended and the US Naval Academy Alumni Association sponsors were impatient. While Larry builds exquisite aircraft models, he had been talked into doing this ship without knowing the magnitude of the kit by Harry Davidson. Harry volunteered me to finish it. Assume the good parts are Larry’s and the rest mine.





Since the ship is an amphibious assault ship with a lot of otherwise invisible landing craft, it was decided to show its payloads as if it was in drydock. The wood bunks are quite out of scale, but I went ahead and used the base as I received it. There were no complaints from the client. Indeed, they liked the presentation. Go figure.

Since my ship models usually have masts and sails, I had not used photoetch railings before. After a bit of experimentation, I found that G-S Hypo Watch Crystal Cement was easier to use than CA or other adhesives (since, I have found that tacking them in place with a few dots of PSA, followed with CA from a glue looper, works nearly as well).

The oohs and aahs of museum visitors over the railings made it worth the time. The model is on display at the New Mexico Military Museum in Santa Fe.



BONUS PAGES!

KIT REVIEW

MARK VAUGHN

1/350 USS Indianapolis by Academy/MRC

Before we lost Harry Davidson, I built a 1/350 *USS Indianapolis* to commemorate his cousin from Clovis who was lost when it was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine. There is a recent movie that covers that event. Harry wanted the model for display in Clovis, so this was built straight out of the box as a museum display piece.





While I was thinking more of an old Revell type kit, this one has about 500 parts, many smaller than a grain of rice! Of course, I got the photoetch railings too. At first, I did not believe the color scheme. She was fresh out of a refit, new paint, with dark blue decks and a dark blue lower hull stripe with the accustomed gray upper vertical surfaces. This free build was starting to get serious!

As I usually do, I carefully fitted a piece of basswood along the keel with slow curing epoxy. I have heard tales of molten polystyrene using the fast curing variety. I have certainly melted plastic mixing bowls with it. Since I wasn't using the (spindly, almost useless) kit stand, but rather a wooden base supplied by someone else (with little varnishing skill), it was necessary to provide wood or something like it internally for screws. Like weight in the nose of aircraft, it's easy to forget this (ask me how I know). I turned some brass pedestals on the minilathe. I had a local awards outfit make a nameplate.

There were a few kit criticisms. The radar antenna was solid which I faked as best I could with dry-brushing. Also, the crane was solid, and again, I did my best to make gray "openings." This seemed absurd to me, since the catapult was detailed. I made a few replacement parts on the lathe, either because the plastic ones were too spindly or were lost in the carpet. There are a few cockeyed parts in the masts that should



have been remade. One thing I like to do on portholes is use a mechanical pencil and rub in “glass”. The graphite does a good job of darkening while giving the portholes a little gloss. I used G-S Hypo Cement to attach the photoetch railings. Tackier than CA with a longer pot life, I find it easier to use with the hypodermic needle applicator it comes with. And you can't glue your fingers together with it.

I debated with myself whether there should be an ensign, but since it was torpedoed at night, decided against it. They never seem to look right anyway to my eye. I didn't rig the superstructure as, at $\frac{1}{350}$, a one-inch cable is invisible at three mils. What I remember most about this build are the disagreements with Harry about colors. Fortunately, there are online refit photos showing the color scheme, particularly the coloration of the raft floor webbing. In the end, Harry (and the museum in Clovis) were pleased.



FIELD TRIP!

USS WISCONSIN

LLOYD POWELL

[Editor's note: Lloyd provided this article in PDF format, which sadly makes it basically impossible to adapt it to our layout template format, color correct photos, and so on. Nor was it possible to correct any spelling, syntactical, or grammatical errors, or even *put the author's name on the piece!* Further, anyone trying to print out these pages should take note that the margins are very small, and may prove problematic for most printers. This piece is presented on the following pages as submitted.

We really do thank Lloyd for taking the time and effort to construct this piece! But for anyone planning to submit items in the future, please note:

- I need the text and graphics in separate files.
- I cannot edit PDF files.
- Text can be in the body of an email or in a Word file, as you prefer.
- Photos can be in the Word file *for reference as to which photo goes where*, but I cannot separate images from Word files with reliable resolution/quality— the images will still need to be submitted in separate files.
- Images snagged from websites tend to be at screen resolution (usually 72dpi), which is not acceptable for publishing. Be aware that such images will generally appear at **one-fourth** the size you thought they were to get them up to 300dpi.
- All graphics **MUST** be in separate files. JPEGs, TIFFs, PNGs are fine.

Thanks again, Lloyd! -JW]

USS Wisconsin

The *USS Wisconsin* is currently docked in Norfolk Va and is open as a exhibit at the Nauticus National Naval Museum.



USS Wisconsin (BB-64) is an Iowa Class battleship built at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard and launched December 7, 1943. It entered World War II in April 1944. The *Wisconsin* also served in the Korean conflict and Desert Storm, after a modernization program. The *Wisconsin's* main battery consisted of nine 16 inch guns, which could fire 2,700 lb (1,200 kg) armor-piercing shells some 20 miles. The secondary battery consisted of twenty 5 inch guns in ten twin turrets, which could fire at targets up to 10 miles away. With the advent of air power and the need to gain and maintain air superiority came a need to protect the growing fleet of allied aircraft carriers. To this end, *Wisconsin* was fitted with an array of Oerlikon 20 mm and Bofors 40mm anti-aircraft guns to defend allied carriers from enemy airstrikes. When reactivated in 1986, *Wisconsin* had her 20 mm and 40 mm AA guns removed, and was outfitted with Phalanx CIWS mounts for protection against enemy missiles and aircraft, and Armored Box Launchers and Quad Cell Launchers designed to fire Tomahawk and Harpoon missiles.



Everything is massive

USS Wisconsin – some details for modelers



Fence barriers on ships are a real challenge for modelers



16 inch shells weigh 2700 lbs each, about the weight of a VW beetle



Pyrotechnic Locker hold various combustible items such as smoke grenades, flares, and ammunition for both machine guns and the saluting batteries



Every color has a specific safety meaning: Blue: fresh water, Green: salt water, Red/green stripe: fire fighting foam, White: steam, Gray: high pressure air, Tan: low pressure air, Orange: hydraulics, Yellow: fuel oil, Yellow and black: lube oil



Signal flags are used at sea for communication between ships, affording transmittal in a silent manner. They can spell out short messages. Individual flags and various combinations of flags also have special meanings. On ceremonial occasions they 'dress or decorate a ship'.

Building the *Wisconsin*:

- 312,000 lbs paint
- 5,000 light bulbs
- 348,000 lbs blueprint paper
- 1,135,000 rivets
- 4,300,000 ft welding wire
- 1,330,000 ft electric cable
- 422,000 ft piping
- 900 electric motors

USS Wisconsin – more info on major subsystems

Three-Gun, Not Triple Gun

“Three-gun” turret means each gun can elevate and fire independently. “Triple” would indicate all barrels operate together.

The 5"/38 gun mounts on the ship are true dual, not two-gun, mounts, as both barrels elevate and fire as a unit.



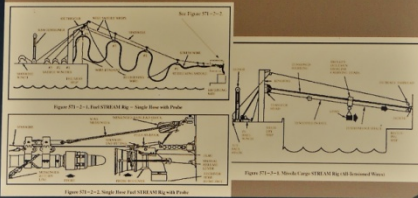
Left gun on Turret 1 firing alone.

Photo courtesy USS Wisconsin Association. All rights reserved.

FAS & RAS

“FAS” and “RAS” mean “Fueling At Sea” and “Replenishment At Sea,” indicating the function of each cleat or tie-down in supporting the rigging for a particularly complex and occasionally dangerous resupply operation.

Each rigging differed, depending on whether it supported fueling, supplies or personnel transfers.



Fan Out on the Fantail, People!

In addition to launching and accommodating various seaplanes, helicopters, and RPV aircraft, the fantail was the place for special activities—speeches, band concerts, “smokers” (boxing matches), crew picnics, and catching rays on the “Teak Beach.”



The age-old Navy “Crossing the Line” ceremony brought out a myriad of costumed characters (such as King Neptune) and raucous crewmates celebrating the crossing of the Equator by the new sailors onboard the ship.

Ed Sullivan’s “Toast of the Town” (a “really good show”) was filmed (no tape in those days) and broadcast live on television from the fantail in 1957.

The fantail is still used today for special events, including naval retirements and re-enlistments.

Turret II

Wisconsin’s turrets reassured friends and intimidated foes.

The turrets were enormously complicated machinery. The 16-inch guns in all turrets required heavy duty power to operate electrical and hydraulic motors for raising and lowering guns, rotating the turret and hoisting ammunition.

A complex system of communications was required for the 77 sailors manning the turrets to talk to each other and to targeting stations elsewhere on the ship.

Proper ventilation and protection from noxious gasses generated by the guns were also essential for turret crewmen. All in all, it was a huge mechanical operation.

Hard to believe, but one of Wisconsin’s turrets, including armor, ammunition and 16-inch guns, weighed in at a hefty 2,500 tons. Adding up all three turrets, this is the equivalent of having three fully loaded WWII-era U.S. Navy destroyers along for the ride.

Aft Gun Directors

Above you are two parts of the ship’s fire control system for consistently and accurately delivering gun shells to destroy chosen targets. The pyramid-shaped tower is “Spot 2” - the Mark 38 gun director for the 16” guns. (The other 16” director, “Spot 1,” is on top of the forward superstructure.)

The mount with the round dish antenna is the Mark 37 gun director for the 5”/38 guns. One of four “Sky” director positions on the ship, this was “Sky 4.” See if you can find the others as you tour the ship.

Crew inside the gun directors use radar, optical systems, computers and—always—their hard training and well-developed talents to target the enemy accurately.



40-Foot Utility Boat

Wisconsin carried several of these boats to transport personnel or cargo. Its load: up to 40 sailors, including a crew of 4, or 6 tons of cargo. The 165 horsepower diesel engine drove the boat up to 13 knots for about 120 nautical miles on a single tank of fuel.

Primarily, this “liberty” boat ferried off-duty sailors to shore and back. Imagine coming in from a night on the town, rocking and pitching your way to the ship at anchor. Not always the most happy of returns!



Canvas tops only partly kept you dry.

Old Fleet Landing - Sasebo, Japan, 1950s

Waiting to go ashore, 40 at a time!

Photo courtesy USS Wisconsin Association. All rights reserved.

Some statistics:

45000 Ton, 8887.3 ft long, 108 ft wide, 37 ft draft, currently floats 2-4 ft above the channel bottom, During WWII, 2900 men served aboard the Wisconsin which was almost 1000 more than was designed. This overcrowding resulted in a complete lack of privacy, even on a ship this large.

One Wisconsin sailor looked for a friend in another division for three days. Finally, he wrote his friend a post-card reading “Meet me on the deck beside Turret III at noon”.

During the Gulf War, the ship had a crew of 1600 allowing each sailor to have a bunk with a privacy curtain, reading light and locking storage under the bunk

Food Consumption: During WWII, cooks prepared:

4100 lbs vegetables	1640 lbs fruit
1500 lbs flour	2465 lbs meat
164 lbs butter	205 lbs coffee
540 dozen eggs	



BONUS PAGES! MISCELLANEOUS





KEEP CALM
AND BUILD A MODEL



When you take road rage to the next level.



PILOT: I got a north-bound SUV doing 14 over the limit.

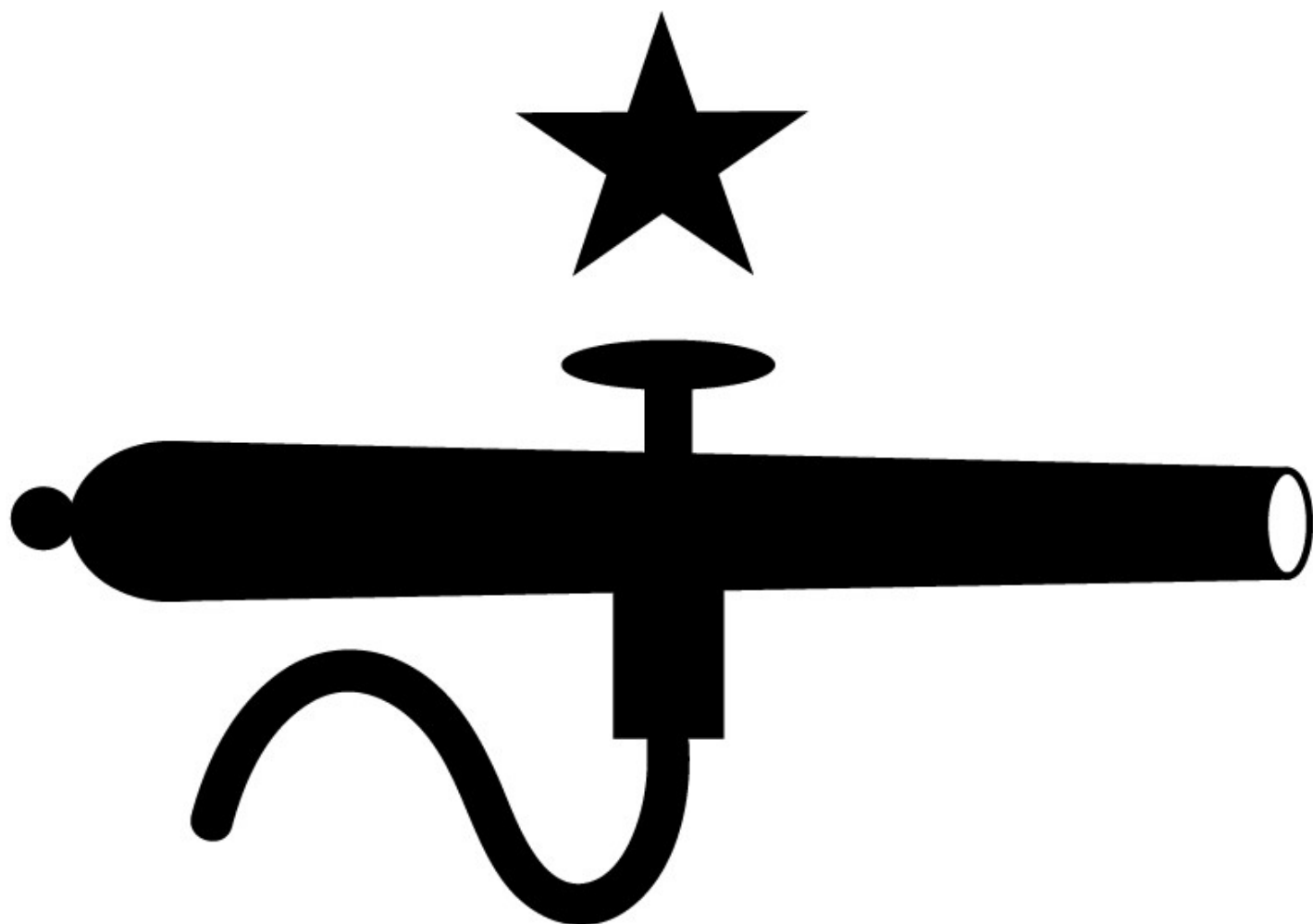


TOWER: If he hits 15 over, take him out.









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SAN MARCOS, TEXAS
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